

Wellness in Recovery (WinR) Addiction Advocacy Research Fellowship Program

Community Advisory Board

Jacquese Armstrong provides workshops on mental health awareness and expressive arts.

George H. Brice, Jr. works as a program development specialist at Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey where he assists with training and program evaluation, with an emphasis on wellness-related projects.

Nina Cooperman is a clinical psychologist and teaches addiction psychiatry and RU-RWJ Medical School. Her research has focused on developing novel interventions and adapting clinical interventions to meet need. She also provide education to increase awareness and reduce stigma for the community and service providers (current and future workforce).

Gina DelJones works at the Center for Great Expectations as a clinical research manager, with special interest in looking beyond recovery to building a full and complete life.

Corey Kuebler works at RUBHC in a re-entry program for people with opioid addiction and is interested in justice involvement and racial disparities. He is a student at Rutgers studying social work, public health and mint in biostatistics.

Keith Murphy has worked primarily with students at RU who are in recovery and has an interest is addressing health discrimination.

Wande Ogun worked in a RUBHC program on a telephone support line as a peer recovery specialist and is now a CADC intern for an addictions program and a graduate student in social work this fall.

Robin Shorter is a licensed clinician and a peer recovery specialist interested in eliminating barriers to recovery and assisting people in getting access to treatment. Robin works for Integrity House.

Peg Wright is founder and CEO of Center for Great Expectations, which offers programs for pregnant and parenting women.

In the words of one of our CAB members,

“Through these initial stages of the WinR Fellowship Program, the WinR Scholars have made incredible progress with the support and input of the Community Advisory Board and WinR’s coordinating team. The Scholars’ dedicated work to developing person-centered and participant-led research initiatives is itself revolutionary, yet WinR’s revolutionary qualities extend even further than that accomplishment. All that attend our progress meetings can feel (palpably, even via Zoom) the beloved community springing forth among us. Our connections are professional and personal; academic yet organically warm, and brimming with mutual admiration. We are intentionally cultivating that

respect and (dare I say) love as we celebrate our diversity across race, gender, and lived experience. At least for me, this sense of interconnectivity to one another and the work we do is extremely rare in the academic, research, and professional spaces I have experienced thus far. I cherish it. WinR's research itself is and will be ground-breaking, and so is and will be WinR's continuing beloved community.”